

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2336

SECDEF

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

S E C R E T LONDON 07644

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: OTRA, MARR, MCAP, NATO, UK

SUBJECT: SCHLESINGER DPC INTERVENTION AND FORTHCOMING
CARRINGTON MEETING

REF: STATE 127286

1. WE MET 3 JULY WITH HOCKADAY (DEPUTY UNDERSECRETARY MOD) TO DISCUSS PROPOSED LATE- JULY CARRINGTON- SCHLESINGER MEETING AND PARTICULARLY HELPFUL SUMMARY OF DPC INTERVENTION RATIONALE SET FORTH REFTEL. HOCKADAY SAID MAIN BURDEN OF SECDEF' S PRESENTATION ON NATO MILITARY CAPABILITIES (I. E., POTENTIAL FOR STRONG NATO CONVENTIONAL FORCE EXISTS AND SHOULD BE EXPLOITED BOTH TO CHECK " TRIPWIREITIS" IN US AND TO BROADEN THE ALLIANCE' S MILITARY OPTIONS) WAS CLEAR TO LORD CARRINGTON AND HIS UK COLLEAGUES, BUT HE FEARED UNFORTUNATE AMBIGUITY LATER IN SPEECH HAD AROUSED CONCERNS IN BONN AND ELSEWHERE THAT HMG CONSIDERS GROUNDLESS. HOCKADAY SAID LORD CARRINGTON UNDOUBTEDLY WILL WANT TO DISCUSS A NUMBER OF THESE POINTS IN DETAIL DURING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON LATER THIS MONTH.

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2. LORD CARRINGTON VIEWS HIS MEETING WITH SECDEF PRIMARILY AS A VEHICLE FOR ESTABLISHING CLOSE RAPPORT BETWEEN THE DEFENSE MINISTRIES OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES FROM THE OUTSET OF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER' S LEADERSHIP. HE IS, OF COURSE, DEEPLY INTERESTED IN THE SECRETARY' S VIEW OF THE US- EUROPEAN RELATIONSHIP AND HOW DR. SCHLESINGER SEES IT EVOLVING OVER THE NEXT DECADE. HE CAN BE EXPECTED TO RETURN TO THE QUESTION OF BURDEN-SHARING, FOR THE HEATH GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES OUR POLITICAL NEEDS IN THIS AREA AND BELIEVES NATO MUST STRIVE TO BE HELPFUL. LORD CARRINGTON ALSO WILL SEEK A FULLER EXPLANATION OF THE BASES FOR THE DPC INTERVENTION AND WILL WANT TO DISCUSS THEM IN SOME DETAIL. WE BELIEVE THE BRITISH AGREE GENERALLY WITH THE APPROACH SIGNALLED AT BRUSSELS AND WILL SUPPORT US WHEREVER POSSIBLE BILATERALLY AND IN NATO COUNCILS.

3. LORD CARRINGTON' S OFFICE IS FOCUSING ON THE INVITATION TODAY, NOTES THAT A POSSIBLE CONFLICT HAS ARISEN (PRESUMABLY RELATED TO THE 1 AUGUST ADJOURNMENT OF PARLIAMENT) BUT PROMISES AN ANSWER BY 5 JULY. WE ARE CONTINUING TO PRESS FOR A 19 JULY MEETING.

ANNENBERG

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